THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of wheat procurement in Punjab and Haryana during RMS 2006-07 as on 15.5.2006 as well as procurement of wheat on the corresponding date in RMS 2005-06 is as under:

(fig. in lakh MTs)

	2006-07	2005-06
Punjab	69.27	89.14
Haryana	22.28	45.05

(c) To increase wheat procurement, the Government has announced an incentive bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal for procurement of wheat over the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of Rs. 650 per quintal payable to farmers by FCI and State Agencies in RMS 2006-07 for the entire procurement period i.e. from 20.03.2006 to 30.06 2006.

CWC Godowns in Uttaranchal

3697. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to properly use Central Warehousing Corporation's godowns in Uttaranchal;

(b) whether steps have been taken to view the contracts drawn up with private parties for use of their godowns;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) is having a total capacity of 75,490 MTs in Uttaranchal where it has got 7 warehouses. The overall occupancy of the region in 79%. The FCI is already using a capacity of 26,000 MTs of CWC. Wherever there is low utilization, FCI as well as private procurement agencies have been offered space to effectively utilize the storage capacity.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) CWC and FCI are already having adequate storage capacity in Uttaranchal. The requisite additional capacity is hired from SWCs and Govt. agencies on the basis of storage needs.

Wheat Stock and Import

3698. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether wheat production has shown little growth during the last six years;

(b) if so, the details of wheat produced and procured for public stock during that period, year-wise and category-wise;

(c) whether wheat procured as on today is sufficient for Public Distribution System and other welfare programmes for next 12 months;

(d) if not, the details of step taken to increase wheat production and to procure it more for public stocks as on today; and

(e) the details of wheat proposed to be imported and the step taken to maintain quality of wheat imported for targeted Public Distribution System as on today?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) wheat production in the crop years 2000-01 to 2005-06 has varied between 65.76 million tonnes in 2002-03 to 72.15 million tonnes in 2003-04

(b) Details of wheat produced and procured for the Central Pool in the crop years 2000-01 to 2005-06 (which is marketed in 2001-02 to 2006-07) is enclosed at Statement (*see* below)

(c) to (e) Wheat procurement in Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2006-07 is expected to be 95 lakh tonnes. With the import of further 35 lakh tonnes for the Central Pool, along with measures for demand management it may be possible to distribute wheat for the Public Distribution System and other welfare programmes for the next 12 months.

To increase wheat production in the country, the Central Govt. is implementing an integrated cereals development programme in wheat based cropping system areas (ICDP-Wheat).